

**OLSH
90**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
FELIZ NAVIDAD**

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish

DECEMBER 21-25, 2019

Readings for the week of December 22, 2019

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/ Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24
Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66
Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
Wednesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14
Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22
Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/ Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

LORD'S DAY MASSES (in Church)

Saturday 4:00pm

Sunday 9:15am & 11:45am (Español)

WEEKDAY MASSES (in pastoral center chapel)

Monday - Wednesday, Friday 8:00am

Tuesday Español 7:00pm

Thursday No services unless it is a Holy Day

CHRISTMAS DAY:

9:15 am, 11:45 pm in Church

PARISH OFFICES

The Rev. Leo C. Shea Pastoral Center
51 Rosewell Street Springfield, MA 01109

Tel. 413 782-8041 Fax 413-783-9150

OFFICE HOURS

Monday -Thursday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

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Secretary Email: olshspringfield@gmail.com

Contact us for information about the reception of the Sacraments.

STAFF

Fr. Ryan Rooney, Pastor

Angel Diaz, Permanent Deacon

Sr. Connie Cawley, SSJ, Pastoral Minister

Fr. Fidelis Lemchi, In Residence

Corrinne Waterhouse, Secretary

Sharon Sabourin, Family Faith Formation Director

Lynn Bennis, English Music Director

Dr. Nestor Chevere, Spanish Music Director

James Dunnigan, Maintenance Supervisor

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 6:00-7:00 pm chapel

Saturday 3:15 -3:45 pm church or by appointment

DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER GROUPS

Monday Circulo de Oracion (Español) 7:00-9:00 pm

Tuesday Eucharistic Adoration (in Chapel) 6:00-7:00 pm

Juan XXIII (Español) after 7:00 pm Mass



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Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 28

4:00 pm Dick Braese by family

Sunday, December 29 Feast of the Holy Family

9:15 am Dick Braese by the Family

11:45 am Juan Luis Garcia por la familia

Monday, December 30

8:00 am No intention requested

Tuesday, December 31

8:00am James Dunnigan (2nd Anniv)

7:00 pm Vigilia Maria Madre de Dios

Wednesday, January 1 Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day Obl)

8:00 am Lou Galloni by the family

12:15 pm For the parish

7:00 pm For those who died in 2019

Thursday, January 2

No masses scheduled

Friday, January 3

8:00 am Caroline + Willard Rivers (birthday blessings)

Saturday, January 4

4:00 pm Lucile Leli from Eileen

Sunday, January 5 Feast of the Ehipany (Tres Reyes)

10:30 am Roland Berthiume (5th Ann)

****Please be attentive to Mass intentions!
You may book Mass intentions by calling office

This week's Special Offering Candles:

Church: Etta Meade

Pastoral Center Chapel: Richard Meade Sr

Adoration Chapel: Sandra from Mom



Welcome! ¡Bienvenidos! Bienvenue! Returning Parishioners or New to our Parish?

We welcome any visitors amongst us. Please like our Facebook page and feel free to return!

Please see a priest, deacon, member of the Pastoral Council, or call the Pastoral Center for a parish registration form and for more information about receiving sacraments.

Baptisms: Please call the office for Fr. Ryan Rooney in English, or Deacon Angel in Spanish. Baptisms are on the first weekend of the month and require a scheduled class beforehand for the families.

Weddings: It is important to schedule as close to a year in advance. Please see Fr Ryan.

Annulments: If you are currently seeking the Church's help in determining if your previous marriage was invalid, have divorced, and are seeking to be free to marry in the Church, please contact Fr Ryan for a meeting to seek a declaration of nullity. This process can be lengthy, but is a healing process for many who seek to remain in the sacramental life of the Church.

Collection for December 22-23, 2019

Envelopes	\$ 1834.00
Loose Cash	515.55
Capital Fund	30.00
Immaculate Conception	5.00
Elms	5.00
Christmas Gift	190.00
Flowers	10.00
Candles	21.00
Religious Retirement	15.00

Total \$ 2625.55

Thank you for your generosity!

Actual need weekly: \$ 6,000

Difference: -\$3374.45

Previous Week: \$ 3997.84

Our finance council has voted that we show the difference based off our actual need of \$6,000, rather than a goal of \$4000. We don't want you to be discouraged in this, but together we can increase our efforts toward our sustainable budget.

***Consistency in giving is key to our parish sustainability!**



Altar servers: We are requesting the participation of all altar servers from the English and Spanish Masses and their parents or caregivers. We are also encouraging new altar servers to come and join us. For more information please feel free to call Lucy at 413-883-0346 to sign up.

Pastoral Ministry Notes:

Our Masses at Assisted Living/Nursing Homes: Wellington 3rd Monday 2:15pm, Reeds Landing 4th Monday 1:45pm.

Please inform the Pastoral Center if a loved one is ill, dying, in the hospital or nursing home, or homebound and would like Communion.

Funerals: Please know that we are happy to assist anyone with funeral arrangements. While we know the trend is less and less to involve the Church, we encourage Funeral Masses and Masses of Remembrance!

OLSH Corporal Works of Mercy Committee:

Please see Fr. Ryan Rooney for information about volunteer opportunities. If you know of anyone who is in need of assistance from the church, please let us know.

Pastoral Care:

Arrangements for the reception of the Sacraments at home can be made by contacting the Parish Center. Please also notify the Parish Center when a parishioner is in the hospital or otherwise confined. We are currently in need of visitors to the homebound to bring communion. If you are interested please contact Father Ryan.

Pastor's Column

Merry Christmas to All! This weekend, continuing in the Christmas season, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. As Pope Francis recently wrote in his Apostolic Exhortation "Admirabile Signum" on the meaning and importance of the Nativity Scene, "we come to the cave, where we find the figures of Mary and Joseph. Mary is a mother who contemplates her child and shows him to every visitor. The figure of Mary makes us reflect on the great mystery that surrounded this young woman when God knocked on the door of her immaculate heart. Mary responded in complete obedience to the message of the angel who asked her to become the Mother of God. Her words, "Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word" (*Lk 1:38*), show all of us how to abandon ourselves in faith to God's will. By her "fiat", Mary became the mother of God's Son, not losing but, thanks to him, consecrating her virginity. In her, we see the Mother of God who does not keep her Son only to herself, but invites everyone to obey his word and to put it into practice (cf. *Jn 2:5*).

At Mary's side, shown protecting the Child and his Mother, stands Saint Joseph. He is usually depicted with staff in hand, or holding up a lamp. Saint Joseph plays an important role in the life of Jesus and Mary. He is the guardian who tirelessly protects his family. When God warned him of Herod's threat, he did not hesitate to set out and flee to Egypt (cf. *Mt 2:13-15*). And once the danger had passed, he brought the family back to Nazareth, where he was to be the first teacher of Jesus as a boy and then as a young man. Joseph treasured in his heart the great mystery surrounding Jesus and Mary his spouse; as a just man, he entrusted himself always to God's will, and put it into practice."

I include more of this great exhortation at the end of the bulletin. Warmly, we greet our families involved in our Family Faith Formation program, who made ornaments together to adorn what was our giving tree. I invite these families to spend some time in prayer before our beautiful Nativity scenes, here inside of the church, and lit wonderfully on our plaza outside. May your families be blessed this next year in the learning of your faith together, and may you find in the example of the Holy Family a model for living this faith in your everyday lives.

As we look forward to the New Year, the Feast of Mary, Mother of God (this Tuesday vigil in Spanish, and Wednesday regular Holy Day Mass times), and onward to the Feast of the Epiphany with our Parish celebration to follow, may we keep the celebration of the Christmas season going by the joy we have found in the newborn Christ!

Christmas blessings,

Fr Ryan

Del Parraco

¡Feliz Navidad a todos! Este fin de semana, continuando en la temporada navideña, celebramos la Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia. Como el Papa Francisco escribió recientemente en su Exhortación apostólica "Admirabile Signum" sobre el significado y la importancia del Belén, "el belén nos lleva a la gruta, donde encontramos las figuras de María y de José. María es una madre que contempla a su hijo y lo muestra a cuantos vienen a visitarlo. Su imagen hace pensar en el gran misterio que ha envuelto a esta joven cuando Dios ha llamado a la puerta de su corazón inmaculado. Ante el anuncio del ángel, que le pedía que fuera la madre de Dios, María respondió con obediencia plena y total. Sus palabras: «He aquí la esclava del Señor; hágase en mí según tu palabra» (*Lc 1,38*), son para todos nosotros el testimonio del abandono en la fe a la voluntad de Dios. Con aquel "sí", María se convertía en la madre del Hijo de Dios sin perder su virginidad, antes bien consagrándola gracias a Él. Vemos en ella a la Madre de Dios que no tiene a su Hijo sólo para sí misma, sino que pide a todos que obedezcan a su palabra y la pongan en práctica (cf. *Jn 2,5*).

Junto a María, en una actitud de protección del Niño y de su madre, está san José. Por lo general, se representa con el bastón en la mano y, a veces, también sosteniendo una lámpara. San José juega un papel muy importante en la vida de Jesús y de María. Él es el custodio que nunca se cansa de proteger a su familia. Cuando Dios le advirtió de la amenaza de Herodes, no dudó en ponerse en camino y emigrar a Egipto (cf. *Mt 2,13-15*). Y una vez pasado el peligro, trajo a la familia de vuelta a Nazaret, donde fue el primer educador de Jesús niño y adolescente. José llevaba en su corazón el gran misterio que envolvía a Jesús y a María su esposa, y como hombre justo confió siempre en la voluntad de Dios y la puso en práctica."

Incluyo más de esta gran exhortación al final del boletín. Saludamos a nuestras familias involucradas en nuestro programa de Formación de la familia en la fe, que hicieron adornos juntos para adornar lo que fue nuestro árbol de donaciones. Invito a estas familias a pasar un tiempo en oración antes de nuestras bellas escenas de la Natividad, aquí dentro de la iglesia, y encendida maravillosamente en nuestra plaza afuera. Que sus familias sean bendecidas el próximo año en el aprendizaje de su fe juntos, y que encuentren en el ejemplo de la Sagrada Familia un modelo para vivir esta fe en sus vidas cotidianas.

Mientras esperamos el Año Nuevo, la Fiesta de María, Madre de Dios (esta vigilia del martes en español, y los miércoles de Misa de los días santos), y luego a la Fiesta de la Epifanía con nuestra celebración parroquial a continuación, que podamos ¡mantengan la celebración de la temporada navideña con la alegría que hemos encontrado en el Cristo recién nacido!

Bendiciones de navidad,

P. Ryan

PARASH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Three Kings Festival OLSH, Sunday January 5th. One Mass at 10:30am, followed by Celebration with the Three Kings and gifts for our children. Food and music! Fiesta de los Tres Reyes, una misa del dia 10:30am, a seguir con una celebracion con los Tres Reyes y regalos para niños. ¡Comida y música!



CPR/AED LIFE SUPPORT CLASS Sacred Heart Parish

Sacred Heart Parish will host another CPR/AED class. The class will be held Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 6:30 pm. There is a snow date of Tuesday, January 21st. Check your existing CPR/AED cards for expirations; this is a perfect opportunity to recertify! This class is for **non-medical personnel**, it is perfect for **all other employment, athletic coaches** etc. The cost will be \$45 per person to be paid the day of the class and will be held in our Parish Center, 1061 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. Please call our Pastoral Minister Deb Briancesco RN to sign up at 786.8200 ext 3.



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BLOOD
DRIVE



January Blood Drive

Sacred Heart Parish will once again be hosting the Baystate Health Center Blood Drive on January 25, 2020 from 8 am – 1 pm. This is the only Blood Drive that continues to go out to area churches, area Businesses etc. Sacred Heart Parish Blood Drives have now saved 756 adult lives or up to 1410 babies since we began in July of 2016. Let us strive to save even more lives at this next Blood Drive. Winter historically brings higher demands for blood due to increase accidents, cancer diagnosis and illnesses etc. Please donate the gift of life. To sign up please call our Pastoral Minister Deb Briancesco RN at 786.8200 ext 3.



FOR ALL AGES

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From the Apostolic Exhortation “Admirabile Signum” by Pope Francis on the Importance of the Nativity Scene:

9. As the feast of Epiphany approaches, we place the statues of the Three Kings in the Christmas crèche. Observing the star, those wise men from the East set out for Bethlehem, in order to find Jesus and to offer him their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. These costly gifts have an allegorical meaning: gold honours Jesus’ kingship, incense his divinity, myrrh his sacred humanity that was to experience death and burial.

As we contemplate this aspect of the nativity scene, we are called to reflect on the responsibility of every Christian to spread the Gospel. Each of us is called to bear glad tidings to all, testifying by our practical works of mercy to the joy of knowing Jesus and his love.

The Magi teach us that people can come to Christ by a very long route. Men of wealth, sages from afar, athirst for the infinite, they set out on the long and perilous journey that would lead them to Bethlehem (cf. *Mt 2:1-12*). Great joy comes over them in the presence of the Infant King. They are not scandalized by the poor surroundings, but immediately fall to their knees to worship him. Kneeling before him, they understand that the God who with sovereign wisdom guides the course of the stars also guides the course of history, casting down the mighty and raising up the lowly. Upon their return home, they would certainly have told others of this amazing encounter with the Messiah, thus initiating the spread of the Gospel among the nations.

10. Standing before the Christmas crèche, we are reminded of the time when we were children, eagerly waiting to set it up. These memories make us all the more conscious of the precious gift received from those who passed on the faith to us. At the same time, they remind us of our duty to share this same experience with our children and our grandchildren. It does not matter how the nativity scene is arranged: it can always be the same or it can change from year to year. What matters is that it speaks to our lives. Wherever it is, and whatever form it takes, the Christmas crèche speaks to us of the love of God, the God who became a child in order to make us know how close he is to every man, woman and child, regardless of their condition.

Dear brothers and sisters, the Christmas crèche is part of the precious yet demanding process of passing on the faith. Beginning in childhood, and at every stage of our lives, it teaches us to contemplate Jesus, to experience God’s love for us, to feel and believe that God is with us and that we are with him, his children, brothers and sisters all, thanks to that Child who is the Son of God and the Son of the Virgin Mary. And to realize that in that knowledge we find true happiness. Like Saint Francis, may we open our hearts to this simple grace, so that from our wonderment a humble prayer may arise: a prayer of thanksgiving to God, who wished to share with us his all, and thus never to leave us alone.

FRANCISCUS

Given in Greccio, at the Shrine of the Nativity, on 1 December in the year 2019, the seventh of my Pontificate.

AUTH FUELS

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